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1954

The
POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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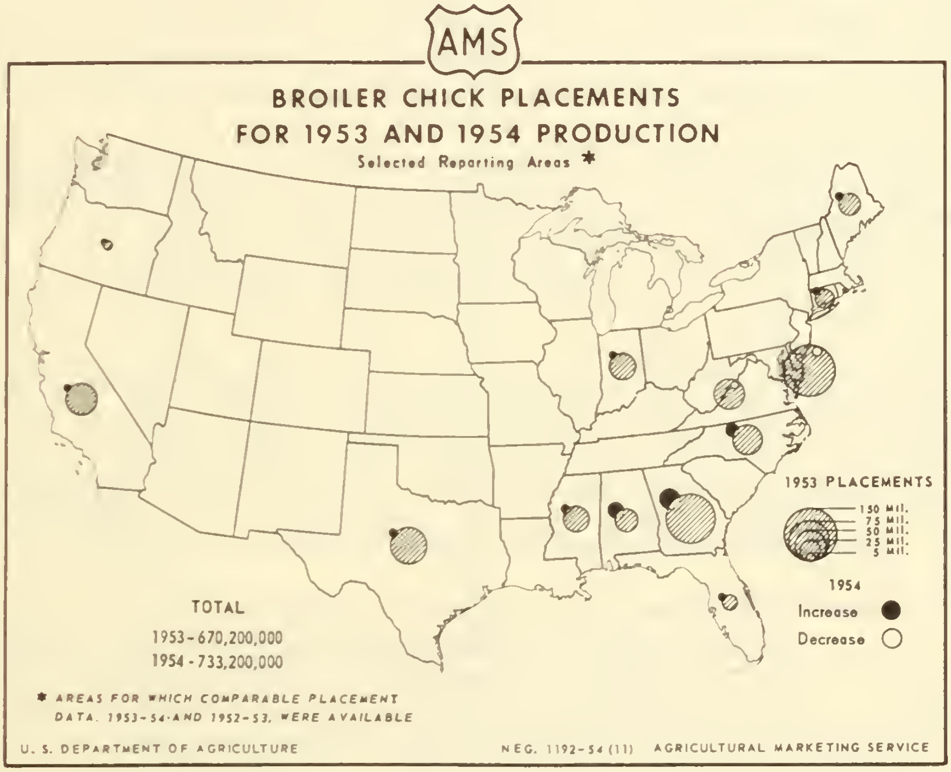

AMS
BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS
FOR 1953 AND 1954 PRODUCTION
Selected Reporting Areas *
1953 PLACEMENTS
150 Mil.
75 Mil.
50 Mil.
25 Mil.
5 Mil.
1954
Increase ●
Decrease ○
TOTAL
1953 - 670,200,000
1954 - 733,200,000
* AREAS FOR WHICH COMPARABLE PLACEMENT DATA, 1953-54 AND 1952-53, WERE AVAILABLE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 1192-54 (11) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Broiler production in 1954 will exceed 1953, on the basis of placements reported from areas which produced about 65 percent of the total in 1953. Despite slight reductions in DelMarVa and the Shenandoah Valley, 1954 placements were up elsewhere in the U. S., particularly in the Southeast. The result may be an 8 to 9 percent increase in broiler production during the year, which would bring the U. S. total to well over 1 billion.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

AGRICULTURE - WASHINGTON

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average 1943-52	1953	1954	Month or date	Average 1943-52	1953	1954	Comments on current situation
					EGGS					
Farm production	Mil. doz.	Sept.	299.8	349.2	383.7	Oct.	302.0	383.3	416.2	Record high for each month since May 1953.
Average number of layers on farms	Millions	Sept.	318.3	319.8	345.7	Oct.	352.1	353.0	375.7	
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	Sept.	11.3	13.1	13.3	Oct.	10.3	13.0	13.3	
Apparent civilian per capita disappearance	Eggs	Aug.	30.2	29.9	30.8	Sept.	29.3	29.0	30.7	
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	Aug.	12.6	9.7	8.1	Sept.	7.6	6.5	7.1	
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	Aug.	9.0	2.0	1.2	Sept.	6.4	1.4	1.0	
Price received by farmers	Ct. per doz.	Sept.	46.2	51.4	33.8	Oct.	48.9	53.2	32.4	No seasonal rise in average prices
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Percent	Sept.	93	95	64	Oct.	91	96	60	
Retail price (AMS)	Ct. per doz.	Aug.	63.3	69.9	58.0	Sept.	67.2	73.1	56.0	
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Sept.	12.8	13.5	8.7	Oct.	13.7	14.3	8.5	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous. cases	Oct. 1	3.2	0.5	0.8	Nov. 1	1.8	0.3	0.6	
Frozen	Mil. lb.	Oct. 1	199.6	109.9	138.8	Nov. 1	164.9	86.9	117.9	
Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries	Millions	Sept.	51.1	86.9	98.7	Oct.	54.8	97.9	86.5	At this season, mostly for broilers
Pullets not yet of laying age on farms	Millions	Oct. 1	194.7	143.6	133.9	Nov. 1	124.6	80.4	75.7	
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol. per cwt.	Sept.	3.65	3.82	3.89	Oct.	3.60	3.72	3.80	
					POULTRY					
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										Unfavorable to producers
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	Sept.	31.4	27.1	23.3	Oct.	30.4	26.7	20.9	
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	Sept.	25.3	21.6	15.3	Oct.	24.5	20.2	14.1	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	Sept.	27.1	24.2	19.2	Oct.	26.0	23.4	17.5	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Percent	Sept.	108	80	65	Oct.	105	77	59	
Retail price of broilers and fryers dressed (AMS) 1/	Ct. per lb.	Aug.	48.7	53.6	49.7	Sept.	50.4	53.3	49.0	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	Sept.	34.2	32.4	27.5	Oct.	34.6	33.3	27.1	
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	Oct. 1	120.4	107.0	110.8	Nov. 1	162.5	132.8	135.0	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	Oct. 1	34.8	69.4	77.6	Nov. 1	66.0	126.3	137.9	
Chicken-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Sept.	7.6	6.4	4.9	Oct.	7.3	6.3	4.6	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Sept.	9.6	8.5	7.1	Oct.	9.8	9.0	7.1	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 12 broiler areas	Millions	Sept.	---	11.1	12.6	Oct.	---	12.0	11.1	Recent placements below last year

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1/ The 10-year averages in this line are not precisely comparable to the averages for the individual months, since prior to April 1949 this item was reported as "chickens", and since then as "broilers and fryers".

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, November 17, 1954

SUMMARY

This is the first year on record that average egg prices received by farmers have not risen seasonally from spring to fall. Prices of individual grades of large eggs in terminal markets to mid-November were slightly higher than the springtime lows, but mediums were considerably lower than in March-June. In mid-October, U. S. average egg prices at 32.4 cents were the lowest of the year to date, mainly because of the unusually large proportion of medium eggs in that supply.

Monthly egg prices to farmers in the six months, May through October, averaged 34.0 cents per dozen against 49.0 cents in the same period of 1953. This decline is attributable not only to the increased supply, but also to the prospects throughout the period that future production, particularly in the fall, would continue large.

Because monthly egg supply is now increasing seasonally, average prices will drift downward for several months after November. However, the gain in production over the year before is tapering off. September output was 10 percent above September 1953, and October was 9 percent above last year. In the spring, the gain above the year earlier is not likely to be above 4 or 5 percent. At such levels, however, springtime production would be a record except for the March-May output of 1944.

Turkey prices strengthened slightly during October and into November, particularly for the sizes normally retailed for family use. The difference between the prices per pound for heavy toms and light birds is greater this year than last. Despite the increase, prices remain considerably below last year, on account of the 6 percent increase in the number of heavy-breed turkeys raised, and 16 percent increase for the light breeds. Through October, testing of turkey hens for inclusion in 1955 breeding flocks has been ahead of last year, indicating a possibly increased production next year, in which event prices to farmers will not be likely to improve from current low levels. In mid-October, the U. S. average price received by farmers was 27.1 cents per pound, compared with 33.3 cents a year earlier.

Weekly broiler placements have been below year ago levels since early October. This is the first sustained decline since March 1953. October placements will be reflected in January marketings. Prices to mid-November continued near the low level which has prevailed since the beginning of 1954.

AMS has recently expanded the coverage of the reports on both broiler chick placements and turkey hatchings.

Egg Production Increasing Seasonally; Fall Prices Below January-February

Monthly egg production began to increase seasonally in September this year, a month earlier than in each of the last 7 years. The proportion of small and medium eggs was unusually large the first few weeks after the seasonal increase began because of the large number of pullets hatched early in 1954. Average egg size is now increasing as these early layers have matured and fewer young birds are being added to laying flocks. (The replacement hatch in late spring was far below a year earlier.)

Egg prices in the past 2 or 3 months have been fairly steady at a level very little above the lowest point in the spring. In general, high quality large eggs in terminal markets are priced somewhat above late spring and early summer, but other grades and sizes, and eggs at other locations, are generally below 1954 springtime levels (table 1).

The large supply of eggs since March is the chief reason why egg prices have not risen seasonally this year. During the first half of 1954, the mid-month average of prices received by farmers dropped from 46.3 cents and 45.7 cents in January and February respectively, to a range of 32.9-35.0 cents per dozen for April-June. The low level of storage demand, which reflected anticipated large egg supplies later in the year, was a factor. Production continued heavy during the summer and fall and the U. S. average of prices received by farmers remained at about the low springtime level. In October, farmers' prices averaged the lowest for the month since 1941. Monthly production will continue to increase until March or April.

The low egg prices of recent months apparently have hastened the culling of hens from the 1953 hatch, despite the low prices for fowl. (Also, however, the early pullets may have hastened culling, since space in the laying houses may have been required for the younger birds.) The number of hens remaining on farms October 1 was 63 percent of the pullets on farms 9 months earlier (table 3), several percentage points below other recent years. While the October 1 number of hens on farms, 176 million, was 3 percent above a year earlier, the figure was smaller than average in relation to pullet numbers 9 months prior.

This computation is based on data available for October 1. For other dates of the year, except January 1, the data do not separately estimate hens and pullets, so no comparably detailed judgments of culling can be made. The month-to-month changes in total numbers of layers reflect not only culling and death losses, but also the addition of new pullets to laying flocks, particularly in the second half of each year. The greater culling of hens before October 1 probably means that culling during this calendar year will be heavier than in past years. However, some reports from the northeast indicate that yearlings are being retained in preference to pullets, on account of their larger egg size. The report of January 1 hen numbers will indicate the extent of culling of hens during October-December.

Table 1 .- Eggs: Prices per dozen, selected grades and dates, 1953 and 1954

Item	Year	Mid-month prices 1/ Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.*	Dec.
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Received by farmers:													
U. S. average price	1953	45.8	42.0	44.7	45.5	45.9	45.7	47.7	50.2	51.4	53.2	49.7	48.5
	1954	46.3	45.7	38.7	35.0	33.1	32.9	34.4	37.4	33.8	32.4		
Iowa ("mostly") 2/													
Grade A, Large	1953	38-40	38-40	43-44	43-44	43-44	44-46	48-50	48-50	50-53	52-54	46-49	40-42
	1954	40-41	36-37	33-34	28-29	29-31	27-28	32-34	32-35	30-33	30-32	30	
Grade A, Medium	1953	34-36	34-35	37-40	38-40	38-40	37-40	38-40	38-40	38-40	34-35	34-36	34-35
	1954	34-36	34-35	31-32	25-26	25-26	3/23-25	22-24	22-25	16-18	13-14	20	
Current receipts	1953	35-37	37-38	38-40	40-41	41-42	37-38	38-40	38-40	38-40	37-40	36-40	38-40
	1954	37-38	35-36	30-32	25-26	26-27	24-25	3/21-25	22-24	16-18	18	20-22	
Wholesale prices:													
New York													
Mixed colors (including Midwestern)													
Extras, Large 4/	1953	47-49	46½-47½	52-53	53-54	52-53	55½-57	54-55	58½-60½	63-64	64-65½	57½-59½	51-52
	1954	49-50	47-48	42-42½	38-39½	39-40	37-37½	44-45½	45-46½	41-41½	39-39½	41-42½	
Medium	1953	46½-47½	45½-46	51-52	50½-51½	48-49½	52-52½	50½-51½	51-52	48-49	44½-45	44-44½	45½-46½
	1954	46-47	45½-46	40½-41	36-37	34-35	33½-34	38½-40	35½-36½	24-25	22½-23	35½-36	
White (including Nearbys)													
Large	1953	51-53	47½-48½	55½-56½	54½-55½	51-52	59½-61	60-62	65½-67	77-78	65-66½	61-63	52-53½
	1954	51½-53	47-48	44½-45½	49-51	40-41½	40-41	52-53	54-55	45-47	39-40	50-51	
Medium	1953	48-49	45½-46	52½-53½	53½-54	49-49½	56½-57	51½-52½	53-53½	52-53	44½-45	46½-47	46-47
	1954	48-48½	45-46	41-41½	42-44	34-35	34½-35½	43-43½	35-35½	26½-27	23-24	36-37	
Small	1953	---	---	---	---	---	43-43½	45½-46½	43-45	33-35	40-41	42-42½	44-45
	1954	44-45	---	---	33½-34	29-30½	28-28½	29½-30	24-25	19-21	19½-20	28½-29	
Frozen egg (carlots), per pound 5/													
Mixed whole egg	1953	36-38	35-36	36-37½	38-40½	39-40½	37½-38½	37-38	38½-40½	39-41	39-42	38½-40	39-40½
	1954	36½-37½	35½-37½	30½-33	25½-29	27-29	26-28	27-28½	25½-28½	26-28	23-26½	23½-25½	
Yolk, highest color quoted	1953	43-48	45-49	49-53	49-53	56-57	54-55	55-56	56-57	59-60	60-61	6/64-65	6/65-66
	1954	61-63	62-63	52-55	47-48	48-49½	50-51	51-53	53-55½	54½-56	54-55	53-55	
Albumen	1953	35-37	32-35	31½-33	33-34	33-34½	31½-33	30-32	30-33	30-34	31½-35	25½-30	26-29
	1954	23-27	21-23	21½-22½	18-20	17½-19	15-17	14½-17½	14-18	12-17	11½-15½	13½-16½	
Chicago													
Mixed colors, Extras, Large	1953	45-46	44-44½	49-50	50-51	47-48	52-53	53-54	59-59½	57½-59	56-57	54-55	48-49
	1954	46½-47	45½-46	39-39½	35½-36	36-36½	34½-35	44½-45	43½-44	39½-40½	39-39½	41-41½	
Medium	1953	44-44½	42-42½	47½-48	47-47½	46½-47	49½-50	48-49	51-52	48-49	43-44	42½-43½	45-45½
	1954	44½-45	44-45	36-36½	34½-35	32	30½-31	39½-40	34-34½	23-24	21-22	33-33½	
Future contracts, September delivery, closing price	1953	47.05	49.60	51.75	53.60	52.70	54.20	52.80	53.45	7/52.40	44.50	43.75	44.50
	1954	45.70	47.05	44.45	41.35	41.75	40.55	41.10	36.10	8/29.00	36.75	38.75	
San Francisco													
Grade A, Large	1953	57½-58½	48½-49½	52½-53½	55½-56½	56½-57½	55½-56½	62½-63½	67½-68½	70½-71½	68½-69½	62½-63½	60½-61½
	1954	54½-55	52½-53½	42½-43½	42½-43½	40½-41½	43½-44½	51½-52½	46½-47½	47½-48½	43½-44½	45½-46½	
Grade A, Medium	1953	55½-56½	43-43½	51-51½	54-54½	53-53½	53-53½	57-57½	62-62½	57-57½	57-57½	52-52½	59-59½
	1954	53-53½	51-51½	39-39½	40-40½	37-37½	37-37½	46-46½	37-37½	32-32½	27-27½	31-31½	

1/ As of the 15th of each month, or first business day thereafter. 2/ Friday, in the week of the 15th. 3/ Range of prices, not "mostly".
4/ Highest quoted class. 5/ Average for the week including the 15th. 6/ L.C.L. Carlots not quoted. 7/ Expired at 52.55. 8/ Expired at 29.45B.
* November 1954 entries are latest quotations available on November 15.

Table 2.- Eggs: Monthly production on farms, United States, January 1953 to date, with comparisons

Month	1953 Quantity	1953 As a percentage of: Average monthly production (12 months) in preceding calendar year	1953 As a percentage of: March-May average in current year	1954 Quantity	1954 As a percentage of: Average monthly production (12 months) in preceding calendar year	1954 As a percentage of: March-May average in current year
	Million cases	Percent	Percent	Million cases	Percent	Percent
January	15.0	107		15.1	106	
February	14.7	104		15.2	106	
March	17.4	123	103	18.3	128	105
April	16.9	119	100	17.4	122	99
May	16.2	115	96	16.9	118	96
June	14.0	99	83	14.6	102	83
July	12.8	91	76	13.2	93	75
August	12.0	85	71	12.6	88	72
September	11.6	82	69	12.8	90	73
October	12.8	91	76	13.9	97	79
November	13.3	94	79			
December	14.6	103	86			

Table 3.- Survival of January 1 pullets as hens on succeeding dates, 1940 to date

Year	Pullets on farms, Jan. 1: Laying	Pullets on farms, Jan. 1: Not yet laying	Pullets on farms, Jan. 1: Total	Hens on farms: Oct. 1: Number	Hens on farms: Oct. 1: Percentage of Jan. 1 pullets 2/	Hens on farms: Dec. 31 1/: Number	Hens on farms: Dec. 31 1/: Percentage of Jan. 1 pullets 2/
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Percent	Millions	Percent
1940	202.5	51.1	253.6	158.3	62	141.4	56
1941	192.3	47.6	239.9	165.8	69	150.2	63
1942	220.8	56.9	277.7	182.6	66	170.3	61
1943	255.3	63.3	318.6	227.8	71	174.0	55
1944	282.2	67.4	349.6	228.9	65	172.4	49
1945	254.5	47.0	301.5	213.7	71	150.7	50
1946	269.3	52.8	322.1	202.2	63	150.5	47
1947	243.9	37.0	281.0	197.8	70	139.6	50
1948	242.8	35.2	278.0	192.9	69	141.0	51
1949	227.1	31.2	258.3	184.1	71	137.0	53
1950	254.6	32.2	286.8	191.6	67	146.3	51
1951	233.7	30.1	263.9	185.8	70	143.7	54
1952	244.3	31.8	276.1	185.3	67	149.5	54
1953	230.0	24.4	254.4	170.6	67	132.2	52
1954	255.1	26.3	281.5	175.9	62		

1/ Data applicable to January 1, following. 2/ *Computed from unrounded* data.

The January 1 number of layers on hand is likely to exceed a year ago by a smaller percentage than on November 1, 1954 when the number was 5 percent above a year earlier. The January 1 increase is likely to be closer to 3 percent--the percentage by which the number of potential layers on farms November 1 exceeded a year earlier.

Springtime egg production, based on a laying flock about 3 percent above the year earlier, will likely be 3 to 5 percent above 1954. In January and February, however, when year-to-year increases in rate of lay are an important factor, the production gain above 1954 is likely to be greater. Egg prices are likely to drift lower from November at least through January or February.

Turkey: Record Crop, Prices Slightly above Early Season Levels; Testings Up for 1955 Hatchings

Reported prices for individual classes of turkeys rose slightly during October and into November. Since lower priced toms comprised a heavier proportion of the marketings, the average price of 27.1 cents received by farmers in mid-October was nevertheless slightly below mid-September, when it was 27.5 cents. A year earlier it was 33.3 cents. The decline this year is due primarily to the 9 percent increase in the size of the crop, bringing 1954 output to a record level.

Due to vigorous sales promotion and low retail prices, a considerable part of the increase in the 1954 turkey output has probably already been eaten. A further part of the increased output is accounted for by the level of storage holdings, which on November 1 were 138 million pounds, against 126 million a year earlier. Therefore, the holiday markets will not be called upon to absorb the full increase from last year of 2.5 million additional light-breed turkeys, and 2.3 million heavy-breed turkeys.

While terminal market quotations in early November were only slightly higher than a month earlier (table 4), market reports stressed the difficulty of replacing stocks at going prices, in view of firm asking prices for live turkeys on farms.

There is a wider price spread per pound this year than last between heavy toms, and turkeys of the smaller sizes which are most sought for retail trade.

Despite the large crop this year, early-season testing of hens for inclusion in breeding flocks is up from last year. From July 1 through October, 19 percent more heavy-breed hens than last year were tested, more than offsetting the 13 percent decrease in light-breed hens. This period, from 1952-53 and 1953-54 experience, normally includes about 22 percent of the heavy-breed testings and 35 percent of the light-breed testings for the July-June year. If this early-season trend in testings is not reversed, the previous outlook for a smaller 1955 turkey crop may not materialize.

Table 4 .- Turkey prices, per pound: Selected series, January 1952 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
(a) U. S. average farm price, mid-month (live)												
1952	37.1	36.1	34.5	34.5	32.0	32.3	31.9	32.6	33.2	32.9	33.7	34.6
1953	33.6	33.3	33.6	33.3	32.5	31.7	32.3	32.7	32.4	33.3	33.9	34.4
1954	33.2	33.2	33.1	32.8	30.5	30.1	28.6	27.7	27.5	27.1		
(b) Live, heavy type young toms, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/												
1952	34-35	34-37	---	25-26	24-26	25-27	---	27	30½-32	28-29	29-30	29½-30
1953	28½-29½	---	---	---	29	---	---	29½-31	29-29½	28-29	28-29	28-29
1954	29-30	---	---	---	26	25-26	24-25	24-25	24	22-22½	22½-23½	
(c) Frozen eviscerated toms, heaviest weights quoted, New York City, first day of month 1/												
1952	59-61	59-61	58-58½	56-58½	59-61	60-63	57-60	57-59	61-64	58-60	54-58	53-57
1953	53-55	55-56½	53-55	52-55	56-58½	56-60	55-59	56-59	55-57	55-59	53-56	51½-54
1954	51-54	51-54	51½-54½	49½-53½	49-53½	50-52	46½-49	47-49	47-49	46½-49	44-48	
(d) Frozen eviscerated hens, 12-14 pounds, New York City, first day of month 1/												
1952	65-67	65-67	61-63	57-60	59-62	59-62	56-59	55-57	57-59	57-59	56-59	56-58
1953	56-59	56-58	54-57	54½-57	62-64	61-64	59-61	56-59	55-57	56-57	58-60	59-60½
1954	60-61½	60-61½	60-61½	59½-61½	---	---	51-53	45½-48	48-49½	47-49	49½-51	
(e) Live, Beltsville Small Whites, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and West Virginia, first day of month 1/												
1952	39-40	36-38	37-39	38-39	35	35	30	30	35	36-37	37-38	37-38
1953	42	40½	42-43	42-43	38	35	33	32-33	33	33-33½	36½	37½
1954	37	35	37	33	30	30-31	27-29½	26-26½	27½-28	29	31-32	
(f) Ice-packed New York dressed, Beltsville Small Whites, New York City, first day of month 1/												
1952	---	47½-48	48-50	49½-50	46-47	43-44	41-41½	39-39½	45-46	47½-48	47½-48	49-50
1953	53½-54	52½-53	55½-56	51-52	48-49	43-44½	43-44	41½-42	42½-43	41½-42	44-45	46½-47
1954	47-48	44½-45	44½-45	42½-43	38½-39	36-37	36½-37	33½-34	35½-36	36½-37	38½-39	

1/ Or first following day when quotation is available.

Because early turkey testings can reflect intentions to complete the testing job early in the season rather than necessarily to increase the year's operation on the scale indicated to date, these data regarding testings are merely indicative rather conclusive with respect to the size of the prospective crop. Early testing is advantageous for efficient operation of the testing programs conducted by the respective States, but if the resulting supply of turkey hatching eggs is available before normal seasonal demand for setting eggs in incubators, the market season for turkey hatching eggs will open on a weak tone. Also, if total 1955 turkey production exceeds 1954, prices in that year are not likely to recover from current levels.

Table 5.- Turkeys tested for pullorum by official State agencies

Month	Heavy breeds			Light breeds			Total		
	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
	(a) During the month								
July	6	13	30	26	38	79	32	51	109
August	44	22	48	18	57	68	62	79	116
September	87	100	124	64	95	68	151	195	191
October	364	353	376	57	112	49	420	464	425
November	671	591		51	90		721	682	
December	635	638		73	72		708	710	
January	297	326		86	71		383	398	
February	109	144		58	82		167	226	
March	31	35		12	44		43	80	
April	6	4		17	11		23	15	
May	1/	4		6	19		6	23	
June	1	8		25	67		26	75	
	(b) Cumulative								
July	6	13	30	26	38	79	32	51	109
August	50	35	78	44	95	147	94	130	225
September	137	135	202	108	191	214	245	326	417
October	501	488	578	165	302	263	665	790	842
November	1,171	1,079		215	393		1,387	1,472	
December	1,807	1,717		288	465		2,095	2,182	
January	2,104	2,043		374	536		2,478	2,579	
February	2,214	2,187		432	618		2,645	2,805	
March	2,245	2,223		444	662		2,689	2,885	
April	2,250	2,227		461	673		2,711	2,900	
May	2,250	2,231		467	692		2,717	2,923	
June	2,252	2,239		492	759		2,743	2,998	

1/ Less than .5 thousand.

Table 6.- Turkeys: Composition of storage stocks, available data, September 1952 to date

Classification	Percentage of total reported holdings, by weight				
	September 30			January 31	
	1952	1953	1954	1953	1954
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Eviscerated tom turkeys	26	36	41	55	73
Eviscerated hen turkeys	37	45	46	10	8
Eviscerated broiler-fryer type turkeys	8	11	7	1	3
N. Y. dressed tom turkeys	12	5	5	26	15
N. Y. dressed hen turkeys	17	3	1	8	1
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Size of sample on which percentages are based	53	46	50	89	87
Total U. S. cold storage holdings, same date	71	69	77	147	122

Institute of American Poultry Industries.

Broilers: Current Placements below Year Earlier

From mid-October until mid-November weekly placements of broiler chicks in 12 specialized reporting areas were below a year earlier. Except for 3 weeks in May and June, this is the first time since March 1953 that weekly placements have been smaller than corresponding year-ago figures. Recent prices were not markedly less favorable than during other periods of the past year, when placements were increased.

The various areas did not share equally in the decrease in placements. In most of 1954, Del-Mar-Va and the Shenandoah Valley have consistently been below their previous-year levels of output, but Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, among other States, have made more than compensating increases (cover chart, and table 7).

Meanwhile, Del-Mar-Va broiler production capacity has been considerably reduced by hurricane Hazel, which passed through the area on October 15. Broiler housing for 10 million birds there was estimated to have been destroyed by the storm. The volume of broiler sales in the area before and after the storm indicates a considerable delay in sales of the affected chickens, if not an actual loss of the birds. (See tables 8 and 9.) The estimated damage does not exceed the capacity of the broiler housing which has been idle on the Peninsula over much of the past year.

Table 7.- Broilers: Placements for years beginning October 1, 1952 and 1953, specialized areas for which data are available 1/ 2/

(Data for cover chart)

State or area	Sum of weekly placements		Change in broiler placements			
			Numbers		Percentage	
	1952-53	1953-54	Increase	Decrease	Increase	Decrease
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.
Connecticut	22.3	23.1	0.8		4	
Maine	28.1	31.2	3.1		11	
Del-Mar-Va	150.0	145.1		4.8		3
Shen. Valley	47.1	45.5		1.6		3
N. Carolina	50.2	59.3	9.1		18	
Georgia	128.2	152.3	24.1		19	
Texas	69.4	73.5	4.1		6	
Indiana	38.4	40.2	1.8		5	
Florida	11.1	12.4	1.4		12	
Alabama	29.7	47.5	17.8		60	
Mississippi	36.9	42.6	5.7		16	
Oregon	5.2	5.8	.6		12	
California	3/53.8	54.8	1.9		4	
Total	670.2	733.3	69.5	6.5	(9)	

1/ All computations on unrounded data.

2/ Placements for years beginning October result in approximate marketings for calendar years.

3/ Data for 11 months adjusted to be comparable to annual data.

Table 8.- Del-Mar-Va broilers: Placements and sales in relation to hurricane Hazel, October 15, 1954

Date	Average weekly placements, 10-12 weeks prior	Weekly marketings of broilers	Daily sales at the Eastern Shore Poultry Growers' Exchange	
			Lots	Birds
	Millions	Millions	Number	Number
October				
11	2.8	3.1	No auction	
12			44	355,900
13			50	403,900
14			35	311,900
15			57	424,000
18	2.8	2.9	No auction	
19			No auction	
20			6	31,500
21			5	40,000
22			60	528,900
25	2.7	2.5	10	60,400
26			66	449,800
27			46	355,100
28			35	261,500
29			41	338,200
November				
1	2.6	2.6	11	85,700
2			No auction	
3			40	325,900
4			32	209,700
5			43	292,600
8	2.5		9	56,500
9			35	314,100
10			20	132,400
11			No auction	
12			28	188,300

Table 9.- Del-Mar-Va broilers: Weekly placements and marketings compared, 1954 to date 1/

Week ended		Chick placements		Marketings			Marketings as a percentage of average placements	Surplus (+) or deficit (-) of marketable chickens remaining on farms, under assumptions 2/	
		11 weeks prior	Average, 10-12 weeks prior	Processed locally	Shipped out alive	Total		For the week	Cumulative
		Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.
January	2	2.7	2.7	1.6	.1	1.7	65	0.8	0.8
	9	2.8	2.8	2.2	.1	2.3	83	.3	1.1
	16	2.9	2.9	2.0	.1	2.2	76	.5	1.6
	23	3.0	3.0	2.2	.2	2.3	77	.5	2.1
	30	3.1	3.1	2.3	.1	2.4	78	.5	2.6
February	6	3.1	3.1	2.2	.1	2.3	75	.6	3.2
	13	2.9	3.0	2.4	.2	2.5	85	.3	3.4
	20	3.0	2.9	2.2	.2	2.4	82	.3	3.8
	27	2.9	3.0	2.4	.2	2.7	88	.2	4.0
March	6	3.2	2.8	2.4	.3	2.7	96	-.1	3.9
	13	2.2	2.7	2.2	.3	2.5	91	.1	4.0
	20	2.8	2.6	2.4	.3	2.7	102	-.2	3.8
	27	2.9	2.8	2.1	.2	2.2	81	.4	4.1
April	3	2.6	2.7	2.1	.2	2.3	85	.2	4.4
	10	2.7	2.7	1.9	.2	2.1	77	.5	4.8
	17	2.9	2.8	2.0	.2	2.2	80	.4	5.2
	24	2.9	2.9	2.2	.2	2.4	82	.3	5.6
May	1	2.9	2.9	2.4	.2	2.7	93	3/	5.6
	8	2.8	2.7	3.0	.2	3.3	119	-.7	4.9
	15	2.6	2.7	2.9	.3	3.1	118	-.6	4.3
	22	2.6	2.7	2.9	.2	3.1	118	-.6	3.7
	29	2.8	2.7	2.5	.2	2.8	101	-.2	3.5
June	5	2.8	2.8	2.3	.2	2.6	90	.1	3.6
	12	2.9	2.9	2.5	.2	2.7	94	3/	3.6
	19	3.0	3.0	2.5	.2	2.7	89	.2	3.7
	26	3.2	3.1	2.6	.2	2.8	89	.1	3.9
July	3	3.2	3.2	2.4	.2	2.6	83	.4	4.3
	10	3.1	3.1	2.6	.2	2.8	90	.1	4.4
	17	3.1	3.1	2.7	.2	2.9	95	3/	4.4
	24	3.0	3.0	2.5	.3	2.7	91	.1	4.4
	31	3.0	2.8	2.5	.2	2.8	97	-.1	4.3
August	7	2.6	2.6	2.6	.2	2.9	109	-.4	3.9
	14	2.3	2.4	2.6	.2	2.8	119	-.6	3.4
	21	2.2	2.4	2.6	.2	2.8	117	-.6	2.8
	28	2.6	2.6	2.6	.2	2.8	106	-.3	2.5
September	4	3.0	2.9	1.9	.2	2.1	73	.6	3.1
	11	3.1	3.0	2.0	.2	2.2	73	.6	3.7
	18	3.0	3.0	2.6	.3	2.9	96	-.1	3.7
	25	3.0	3.0	2.6	.2	2.9	95	3/	3.6
October	2	3.1	2.9	2.7	.3	3.0	101	-.2	3.4
	9	2.8	2.9	2.8	.3	3.1	106	-.4	3.0
	16	2.9	2.8	2.8	.2	3.1	108	-.4	2.7
	23	2.8	2.8	2.7	.2	2.9	106	-.3	2.3
	30	2.6	2.7	2.3	.2	2.5	96	3/	2.3
November	6	2.6	2.6						
	13	2.6	2.5						

1/ Computed on unrounded data.

2/ Assuming: (a) birds are ready for market as early as 10 weeks.
(b) mortality is 6 percent.
(c) on January 1, there was neither surplus nor deficit of marketable chickens on farms.
(d) the reported data are complete and deal exclusively with Del-Mar-Va broilers.

3/ Less than 0.05.

Reporting Coverage Expanded for Broilers, Turkeys

A recent expansion of reporting of weekly broiler placements has brought the coverage to a total of 22 States. In 1953, these 22 States accounted for 87 percent of the number of broilers produced in the U. S. The format of the reports also has been changed. Data on placements a year earlier are included for 12 of the reporting areas.

Table 10 shows data for the 12 areas for 1953, and 1954 to date. This is in a form comparable with the revised weekly reports, and permits comparisons of 1954 projections with corresponding year-ago data.

The Agricultural Marketing Service has also expanded its reporting of turkey hatchings. Weekly reports are now issued for poult output by heavy and light-type breeds, for Pennsylvania, Minnesota, and Virginia, and for 3 other States in combined form (Ohio, Missouri, and California; combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations).

Table 10.- Broiler chick placements and egg settings: 12-area operations and weekly rates, 1953 and 1954 1/

Period	Chick placements		Egg settings	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Monthly averages:				
January	13.0	13.9	19.3	19.4
February	13.3	14.3	19.4	20.4
March	14.4	15.1	19.9	21.9
April	14.7	15.4	19.7	21.2
May	14.3	14.8	19.1	19.3
June	13.9	14.6	17.9	19.9
July	12.3	14.3	16.4	19.1
August	11.3	13.4	15.5	18.5
September	11.1	12.6	16.7	16.9
Week ending:				
October 2	11.0	12.3	16.4	15.6
9	11.2	11.1	16.8	15.1
16	11.7	11.0	17.1	15.2
23	12.4	11.1	17.6	15.2
30	12.8	11.2	18.0	16.2
November 6	13.2	11.1	18.2	16.3
13	13.4		18.4	
20	13.6		18.7	
27	13.9		19.3	
December 4	14.2		16.4	
11	14.2		18.9	
18	14.5		18.8	
25	12.1		18.2	

1/ The 12 areas are: Alabama, California, Connecticut, Del-Mar-Va, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, North Carolina, Shenandoah Valley, and Texas. Arkansas not included due to non-comparability of data for 1953 and 1954.

Table 11.- Eggs: Quarterly production on farms, divided by population, United States, by regions, 1951 to date

Year, quarter	Region									United States		
											Converted to quarterly rates	
	N. Eng.	M. Atl.	E. N. Cent.	W. N. Cent.	S. Atl.	E. S. Cent.	W. S. Cent.	Mt.	Pac.	Quarterly data	Annual data	Annual per capita civilian consumption 1/
	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs
1951											97	99
1st	80	69	108	336	67	87	94	91	80	108		
2nd	73	67	111	344	73	97	107	93	79	111		
3rd	76	58	81	242	52	66	66	68	65	82		
4th	83	65	90	252	48	59	62	67	74	86		
1952											98	101
1st	82	75	114	347	69	93	101	88	85	113		
2nd	74	71	108	337	71	96	107	89	82	110		
3rd	74	60	78	228	50	67	70	66	69	81		
4th	86	73	94	246	48	63	64	67	74	89		
1953											98	100
1st	83	78	111	327	66	88	87	83	83	108		
2nd	74	73	108	326	69	97	96	83	80	107		
3rd	77	64	80	228	54	71	69	65	69	83		
4th	88	75	96	259	52	66	66	68	78	92		
1954											101	103
1st	84	78	112	338	67	87	89	81	85	110		
2nd	77	76	109	333	70	96	98	83	83	110		
3rd	81	72	86	228	54	66	70	64	76	86		
4th												

1/ This series includes eggs from backyard flocks and approaches a net consumption figure. The preceding columns include only eggs produced on farms, but are not adjusted to allow for eggs used for hatching, exported, etc., etc.

Table 12.- Chickens: Summary of breed distribution of chickens in hatchery supply flocks in National Poultry Improvement Plan, 1941-42 to 1953-54

Year	States	Total birds	Percentage distribution by varieties for all States reporting							
			New Hampshire	White Leghorn	White Rock	Barred Rock	Rhode Island Red	Cross-mated	In-cross-mated	Other
		Million	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1941-42	33	10.7	21.2	24.1	15.6	16.2	12.5	2.0	1/	8.3
1942-43	40	15.8	19.2	26.6	18.3	15.7	8.9	3.0	1/	8.3
1943-44	42	20.3	19.4	25.9	19.7	13.9	8.3	5.5	1/	7.3
1944-45	39	17.6	20.6	25.8	17.5	12.4	8.0	9.8	1/	6.0
1945-46	32	20.3	23.8	23.1	17.0	11.4	7.7	11.3	1/	5.7
1946-47	38	24.5	23.4	25.4	17.4	10.0	6.5	11.1	1/	6.2
1947-48	42	25.2	25.9	24.7	15.2	10.2	6.8	12.4	1/	4.8
1948-49	44	26.5	31.9	25.7	13.2	7.8	5.6	11.9	1/	3.9
1949-50	47	36.2	38.8	21.9	10.4	6.2	4.3	15.1	1/	3.2
1950-51	47	33.8	38.9	21.6	10.1	5.8	4.1	16.4	1/	3.1
1951-52	47	37.6	41.4	18.9	11.9	4.0	3.3	14.3	3.4	2.8
1952-53	47	33.8	36.2	20.1	14.8	3.5	3.2	16.0	4.0	2.2
1953-54	47	36.0	25.4	18.9	23.1	2.2	2.7	19.7	5.1	2.9
	Matched sample of 42 States reporting in both 1947-48 and 1952-53 (States not included: California, Colorado, Maryland, Nevada, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee)									
1947-48		25.2	25.9	24.7	15.2	10.2	6.8	12.4	1/	4.8
1952-53		30.1	35.1	19.8	15.7	3.6	3.4	15.8	4.3	2.3

1/ Data not available prior to 1951-52.

Table 13.- Turkeys: Production, disposition, and related data, by States and divisions, 1953*

State and division	Number on farms January 1, 1953			Number raised	Sales				Consumed on farms where produced		Average price, per pound	Value of:		Number on farms December 31, 1953		
					Average live weight per bird											
	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	Total		Immature and light-weight turkeys 1/	All turkeys	Number	Weight	Number	Weight		Sales	Sales plus home consumption	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	Total
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Lb.	Lb.	Thous.	Thous. lb.	Thous.	Thous. lb.	Ct.	Thous. dol.	Thous. dol.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
Maine	8	7	15	394	8.0	12.2	385	4,697	1	12	34.3	1,611	1,615	10	12	22
New Hampshire	15	1	16	145	8.0	18.2	142	2,584	2	36	35.7	922	935	17	---	17
Vermont	12	1	13	127	7.5	19.0	124	2,356	2	38	37.1	874	888	13	1	14
Massachusetts	58	1	59	633	8.2	17.4	628	10,927	6	104	39.0	4,262	4,303	54	2	56
Rhode Island	4	1	5	53	8.5	17.6	52	915	1	18	39.8	364	371	4	1	5
Connecticut	24	5	29	340	8.0	19.0	334	6,346	4	76	39.8	2,526	2,556	29	1	30
New York	125	3	128	962	7.4	17.8	954	16,981	23	409	43.7	7,421	7,600	106	3	109
New Jersey	61	9	70	353	8.0	17.3	358	6,193	7	121	44.2	2,737	2,790	49	7	56
Pennsylvania	207	17	224	1,744	8.8	15.4	1,675	25,795	38	585	40.3	10,395	10,631	230	16	246
N. Atl.	514	45	559	4,751	8.5	16.5	4,652	76,794	84	1,399	40.5	31,112	31,689	512	43	555
Ohio	121	40	161	1,972	7.8	15.9	1,860	29,574	25	398	35.3	10,440	10,580	116	32	148
Indiana	32	14	46	1,705	8.0	17.5	1,671	29,242	11	192	35.3	10,322	10,390	42	25	67
Illinois	71	8	79	899	6.8	18.3	871	15,939	12	220	34.8	5,547	5,624	81	10	91
Michigan	115	17	132	1,097	7.0	16.7	1,083	18,086	12	200	35.1	6,348	6,418	110	19	129
Wisconsin	33	24	57	1,592	8.1	15.2	1,548	23,530	13	198	36.9	8,683	8,756	67	19	86
E. N. Cent.	372	103	475	7,265	7.8	16.5	7,033	116,371	73	1,208	35.5	41,340	41,768	416	105	521
Minnesota	174	70	244	5,617	8.0	15.6	5,506	85,894	21	328	33.2	28,517	28,626	204	118	322
Iowa	152	3	155	3,673	7.8	18.9	3,770	71,253	14	265	33.4	23,799	23,888	142	5	147
Missouri	241	33	274	1,493	7.0	16.4	1,452	23,813	12	197	31.6	7,525	7,587	228	62	290
North Dakota	26	8	34	510	8.5	16.5	494	8,151	17	280	34.2	2,788	2,884	29	3	32
South Dakota	38	10	48	437	---	19.0	429	8,151	11	209	32.8	2,674	2,743	39	5	44
Nebraska	37	---	37	819	8.5	20.4	810	16,524	7	143	32.6	5,387	5,434	35	2	37
Kansas	104	11	115	698	7.5	18.0	651	11,718	10	180	32.9	3,855	3,914	135	12	147
W. N. Cent.	772	135	907	13,247	7.8	17.2	13,112	225,504	92	1,602	33.1	74,545	75,076	812	207	1,019
Delaware	16	2	18	428	8.3	12.5	423	5,288	2	25	38.1	2,015	2,025	17	3	20
Maryland	59	6	65	492	8.8	16.6	474	7,868	12	199	38.5	3,029	3,106	60	8	68
Virginia	85	122	207	4,610	8.4	13.1	4,581	60,011	20	262	34.6	20,764	20,855	69	138	207
West Virginia	36	43	79	1,440	8.2	12.6	1,437	18,106	6	76	35.8	6,482	6,509	23	52	75
North Carolina	55	5	60	967	8.4	16.4	943	15,465	14	230	35.4	5,475	5,556	60	7	67
South Carolina	72	18	90	1,173	8.2	16.9	1,153	19,486	12	203	36.0	7,015	7,088	72	22	94
Georgia	48	6	54	372	8.0	18.4	342	6,293	23	423	36.8	2,316	2,472	59	---	59
Florida	26	5	31	186	8.0	17.0	168	2,856	13	221	40.7	1,162	1,252	25	9	34
S. Atl.	397	207	604	9,668	8.4	14.2	9,521	135,373	102	1,639	35.6	48,258	48,863	385	239	624
Kentucky	51	5	56	371	7.5	16.5	351	5,792	13	214	33.7	1,952	2,024	57	1	58
Tennessee	25	1	26	186	5.3	13.4	172	2,305	12	161	32.7	754	807	25	1	26
Alabama	24	6	30	231	8.0	13.9	209	2,905	28	389	37.2	1,081	1,226	16	5	21
Mississippi	24	---	24	115	7.0	14.3	94	1,344	21	300	36.5	491	601	22	---	22
Arkansas	23	24	47	528	7.0	15.3	489	7,482	13	199	30.6	2,289	2,350	21	49	70
Louisiana	21	---	21	112	---	16.8	92	1,546	20	336	40.1	620	755	20	---	20
Oklahoma	58	14	72	621	5.9	16.4	601	9,856	20	328	31.4	3,095	3,198	57	11	68
Texas	556	59	615	3,407	6.3	17.0	3,282	55,794	107	1,819	30.2	16,850	17,399	495	114	609
S. Cent.	782	109	891	5,571	6.5	16.5	5,290	87,024	234	3,746	31.2	27,132	28,360	713	181	894
Montana	13	---	13	140	8.0	17.0	126	2,142	12	204	31.5	675	739	13	1	14
Idaho	15	---	15	95	6.0	19.7	92	1,812	6	118	33.7	611	651	10	1	11
Wyoming	13	---	13	100	---	18.4	95	1,748	6	110	33.1	579	615	11	---	11
Colorado	48	---	48	636	8.0	19.6	631	12,368	16	314	35.3	4,366	4,477	34	2	36
New Mexico	11	---	11	61	---	19.8	52	1,030	8	158	34.9	359	414	11	---	11
Arizona	11	1	12	103	7.0	20.4	95	1,938	8	163	33.2	643	697	11	---	11
Utah	41	7	48	1,734	8.0	17.7	1,719	30,426	8	142	31.5	9,584	9,629	47	6	53
Nevada	2	---	2	19	---	20.0	18	360	3	60	33.5	121	141	---	---	---
Washington	138	20	158	978	7.0	18.0	1,134	20,412	9	162	32.4	6,613	6,665	115	21	136
Oregon	248	16	264	1,963	7.2	19.7	2,038	40,149	12	236	29.5	11,844	11,914	272	24	296
California	1,240	45	1,285	9,899	8.1	19.3	9,974	192,498	43	830	31.1	59,867	60,125	1,069	62	1,131
West.	1,780	89	1,869	15,728	7.9	19.1	15,974	304,883	131	2,497	31.2	95,262	96,067	1,593	117	1,710
United States	4,617	688	5,305	56,230	8.0	17.0	55,582	945,949	716	12,091	33.6	317,649	321,823	4,431	892	5,323

1/ Including Beltsville Small Whites and other breeds.

* This table replaces table 26 published in PES-171. In the earlier table, the fifth column was in error.

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